(5) MARINE.

30. Improvement of the port of Colachel.

Mr. N. Kunjan Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Colachel) observed that, with the construction of the Cochin harbour, the importance of Alleppey as a port would disappear, that the proposal for a harbour at Quilon was impracticable on account of the sand-bank formed at the harbour close to the river-mouth and that the idea of a port in Trivandrum could not be carried out on account of the want of facilities for loading and unloading. The only port which could be thought of was Colachel where there were certain natural advantages. The long-promised bridge, if constructed in the Colachel roads, would give a nice port at Colachel which had large trade relations with Colombo. He requested that the matter might receive early consideration.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

III PROTECTION.

LEGISLATION, CRIMINAL AND CIVIL JUSTICE.

31. Reform of the Legislative Council.

Mr. C. P. Kochukunju Pillai (Member, Kottarakara taluk) thanked the Dewan for the announcement made in the opening Address in regard to the expansion of the Legislative Council. The Member then proceeded to indicate the direction which the proposed reform ought to take. The object of the enlarged Council should not be merely the making of Laws and Regulations. The three great departments of Government, *viz.*, Legislation, Administration, and Finance, should be brought within its province. The following were the lines suggested :—

1. As the Council constituted at present did not represent all interests, the number of Members should be increased to 25. The Heads of Departments should be made Members and such non-official interests as commerce, industries, Municipalities, Jenmies, Kudiyans, &c., should be represented.

2. As far as possible, direct election to the Council should be arranged for and wider franchise allowed.

3. The non-officials should be elected by electorates to be constituted after an electoral survey of the country. There should be a majority of non-officials with sufficient safeguards against any possible embarassment of the executive.

4. The members should have the right of interpellation and of moving resolutions.

5. There should be a small body of 2 or 3 gentlemen to assist the Dewan in the government of the country, such gentlemen being elected from among the non-officials.

6. Administrative questions should be discussed in the Council or in a smaller Committee to be formed for the purpose.

7. The Council should have a voice in framing the annual Budget.

Dewan's reply.—As announced in my opening Address, the Government have under consideration a scheme for the introduction of a measure which will give substantial powers to the people. A Bill has already been drafted and it will take some time before it could be published. The representations of the Member will receive careful consideration.

32. Need for a legislative enactment sanctioning partition in Nair Tarwads.

Mr. K. Parameswaran Pillai (Member, Parur taluk) in reiterating the evils arising from the present system of inheritance among Nairs submitted that the

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